

# TRINITY-KEMPER NEWS

Pastor Tim Burke

July 2024

It seems that one of the most discouraging things you can do in [today's](#) world is watch the news. The 'news' has always been filled with negative content. But let's not place the blame entirely on the network. Their primary goal is not necessarily to bring the new, but rather to sell 'time' on their network. That's how they make their money, selling air-time to advertisers. Regardless of what we think of newscasters they are good at what they do. They know that negative news sells. People in general are more attentive to a negative story than they are to a positive one. If you want to know who's building that new house you noticed, you may have to ask several people to find out. But if you want to know whose house burned down [last night](#) it seems that everybody knows. It's nice to know when a local family had a baby born, but what I really want to know are the details about that accident I just heard about. Many of us can remember the time when you had to catch the 'nightly news' at six o'clock. If you missed it you would have to wait for the paper or learn what happened from others. But now the news is available 24 hours a day. All the negative stories whenever you like.

In the past we were willing to dismiss some stories as conspiratorial. But now we are not so willing to dismiss even the outlandish. How many times have we been told to dismiss something as a conspiracy, but later we find out that it was all true? The most common remark I hear concerning the news [today](#) is, "How do you know what to believe?" For the most part we know we are being lied to, but by whom? We know those conflicting stories can't both be right, but who can you trust? There is the deep state, the dark web, artificial intelligence, trans-humanism, two tiered judiciary and UFO's just to name a few. You will never run out of something to worry about.

This is a good time to remember the words of Solomon, "there is nothing new under the sun." Technologies have changed but the heart of man has not. I would venture to say that every culture or civilization has lived through what we believe to be unique to our day. One thing which perhaps has changed is the size of our world. News of importance is no longer limited to what happens in our town or nation but rather around the world. The speed with which we get our news is immediate. It is said that when Cyrus captured Babylon it was three days before the citizens knew about it. Not so [today](#), we are told of the imminent threat well in advance, real or not.

Israel was defeated and taken to Babylon because of their disobedience. It was foretold to them that they would be there for seventy years, one year for each Sabbath year they neglected to observe. As the end of the seventy years drew near Jeremiah reminded them of God's predetermined plan. "When seventy years have been complete, ... I will fulfill My good word to you." Following this we find that famous verse, "For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." (Jer. 29:11) Within its context this promise was spoken concerning Israel. But by extension I believe there is something here for us as well. Just because things are out of OUR control does not mean that things are out OF control. Either history is a series of random events moved along by the powers that be, or all nations rise and fall according to His purpose. Read Acts 17:26. Proverbs tells us, "The king's heart is like a channel of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes." I believe that powerful people are greatly deluded, believing they are self determined. They are merely pawns on history's chess board. After all, history is His-story! How should we respond to [today's](#) news? Jesus said, "But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

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**Pastor Tim**

# One Year Later

One year ago the Methodist Churches of Cambridge and Bartley faced a big decision – whether to remain with the United Methodist Church or to disaffiliate. Annie Harding wrote a great newsletter article at that time pointing out that we would be the same people no matter what we chose to do.

It was decided to bring these several issues before the memberships of the two churches. The guidelines of the vote were stipulated by the United Methodist Church. The results of the vote was to disaffiliate.

A year later we reflect on our decision and our growth. Attendance for Sunday morning worship is nearly double from what it was a year ago – and includes adults and children. Childrens' Sunday School has increased from once a month to every week for all grade levels – teachers are Lori Mowry, Linda Johnson and Jodi tenBensel for young kids, and Abbie Benson instructs the older children. Pastor Tim is hosting Youth Group every Wednesday evening and attendance is increasing. Ginger tenBensel hosts a Kids' Play Group each week and leads the children in song during Worship Service once a month. Annie Harding leads a weekly Bible Study which is well-attended. The men meet monthly and brought back our annual much-loved Valentine's Day Dessert Auction which raised a record amount of funds. These funds are being used to modernize the online streaming service, which has a very active following for our Sunday service. Live streaming will also be available for weddings and funerals. This will be happening soon with details to follow.

A beautiful brightly-lit marquee was installed in the old brick marquee which had been "saved" by Bob Roberts several years ago. Jodi tenBensel, assisted by Justina Johnson, post Church events as well as notable community events. With no need for the parsonage, the house was sold and investments made from the proceeds.

New committees were formed. Ad Council now meets every month for Church business as well as determining a recipient each month for a \$500 donation. Since the decision to remain independent was made, funds are given locally – i.e. Senior Center, EMTs, camp scholarships, CASA, etc.

Thankfully, Wanda Warwick remained as our Church Secretary, Larry Maatsch keeps our lawn beautiful, and Betty Jorgensen stayed on as our Treasurer and Organist. Betty is now assisted by Trisha Moore, Angela Salberg and Ginger tenBensel when she is not available.

Most of all – at the time of disaffiliation, Tim Burke felt the calling to be back in a pulpit serving God. God put him on his knees to pray, and he found us, and we found him!! We praise God for the continuation of our Church and for the positive growth of the Church. Spreading the Word and studying the scripture with Pastor Tim in the pulpit has brought light and hope to our Church.

**At the regular meeting of the Church Council, it was decided to donate \$500 to the CASA program for Mission Giving for the month of June**

*Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

John 15:4



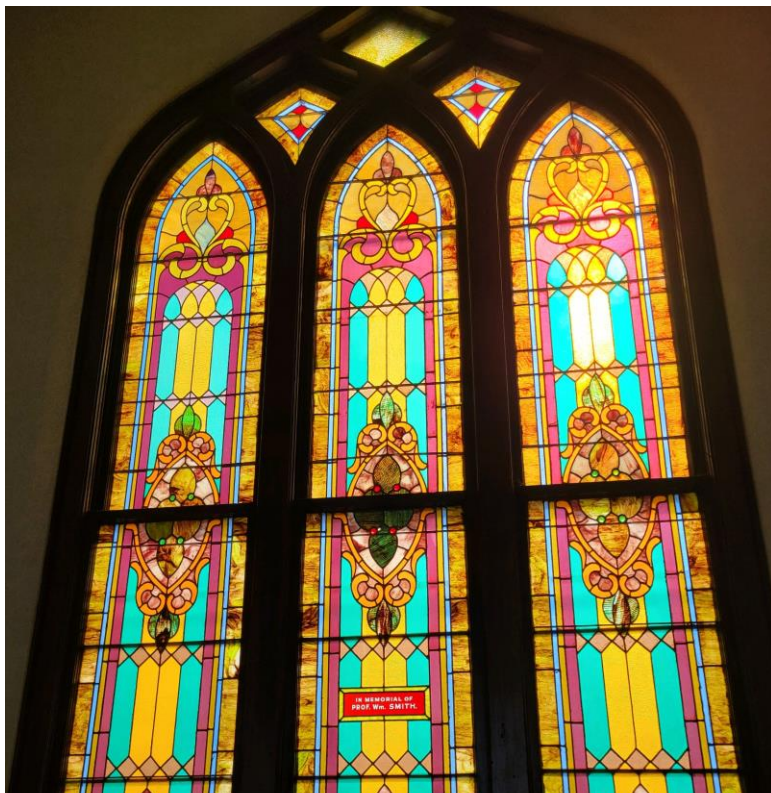


Submitted by Kathleen Hansen



Here is a picture of the “rose” window in the church. Pictured are Demps and Donna Burke and minister, Paul E. Martin. The idea is that the window is gone and this is probably the only picture left of it.

Other changes in the church in the early 1950’s: dark wainscoting was removed from the walls, the platform in the front was made one level and a new alter railing made. Also, a new stairway to the basement was added. The old stairway was moved from the northwest corner of the church to the southwest corner of the sanctuary. Finally, a window on the north wall was removed!



Mallalieu University was founded by Rev. Allen K. Bartley when it opened in the fall of 1886. Professor William F. Smith, of Xenia College, Ohio, resigned and came to Bartley in 1884 to teach at Mallalieu University. The University graduated one class in 1888 but the life of the university was short. In 1889 the Nebraska Conference decided to support Nebraska Wesleyan instead of Mallalieu, and it went out of existence. However, the bricks from the University were used to build the Kemper Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church. This stained-glass memorial window in the east wall of the church, was a gift from Professor Smith’s former students at Xenia College in appreciation of him. The window is as beautiful today as it was more than a hundred years ago!



Thank you to all who helped deliver Meals on Wheels in June! Especially our Sunday School kids - Gavin, Reese, Victoria and Emerson!



### Trinity Sunday Reader Schedule

30 June Lorrie Mowry  
 7 July Diane Deselms  
 14 July Jan tenBensel  
 21 July Angela Salberg  
 28 July Eileen Johnson  
 4 Aug. Jodi tenBensel  
 11 Aug. Steve Johnson  
 18 Aug. Linda Johnson  
 25 Aug. Dale Cramer  
 1 Sep. Lorrie Mowry  
 8 Sep. Virginia Roberts  
 15 Sep. Jan tenBensel  
 22 Sept. Angela Salberg  
 29 Sept. Eileen Johnson  
 6 Oct. Jodi tenBensel  
 13 Oct. Steve Johnson  
 20 Oct. Linda Johnson  
 27 Oct. Dale Cramer  
 3 Nov. Lorrie Mowry  
 10 Nov. Diane Deselms

Thank you to everyone who has been a reader for us throughout the year! We appreciate your help with our service.

If you are signed up to read, but cannot do so on your Sunday, please find someone to fill in for you.

If you are interested in being a reader, or would like to read on a particular Sunday, please contact the person who is listed on that Sunday.

As always, thank you for your continued hard work to make our Sunday worship great!

### Patty Johnson's Special Banana Nut Bread

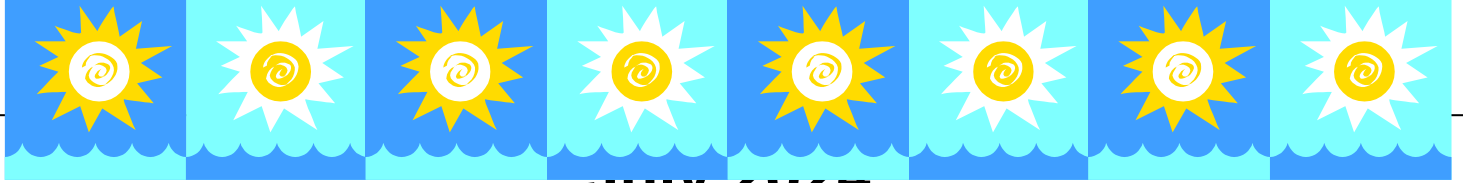
3/4 c. softened butter  
 1 pkg softened cream cheese  
 2 c. sugar  
 2 egg  
 1 1/2 c ripe mashed banana  
 1 tsp vanilla  
 3 c. all-purpose flour  
 1/2 tsp baking powder  
 1/2 tsp baking soda  
 1/2 tsp salt  
 1 1/2 c. nuts

Cream butter, cream cheese & sugar. Add eggs and beat well. Add banana and vanilla and mix well. Combine dry ingredients in a separate bowl. Add to cream mixture and fold in nuts. Bake at 350 for 1-1 1/4 hours. Test with a toothpick.

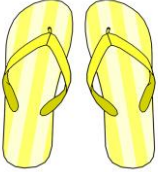

### Potluck

Potluck luncheon will be served on July 14 at Trinity. We are planning on a crowd and hope you will be one of many to join us that day. Bartley you are always welcome to join us at the table!





July 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2 Kid's Group 3 pm	3 Circles gather at 1:30  Youth Group 7pm	4 	5	6
7 9:45 am Fellowship-Cambridge 10:45-Bartley fellowship	8 Elizabeth Circle at 12 pm	9 Kid's Group 3 pm	10 Youth Group 7pm	11	12	13
14 9:45 am Fellowship-Cambridge 10:45-Bartley fellowship  Potluck	15	16 Kid's Group 3 pm	17 Youth Group 7pm  Lois Circle 7:30pm	18	19	20
21 9:45 am Fellowship-Cambridge 10:45-Bartley fellowship	22 Outreach at ALF at 9:30am	23 Kid's Group 3 pm	24 Youth Group 7pm	25	26	27
28 9:45 am Fellowship-Cambridge 10:45-Bartley fellowship	29	30 Kid's Group 3 pm	31 Youth Group 7pm			

*"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."*

*John 16:33*



Happy Birthday Goldene! On July 5<sup>th</sup>, Goldene will celebrate 103 blessed years! She has been a member of the church for 88 years and still continues to attend. What a blessing for us to witness her faith!

If you want to send birthday wishes for a very special birthday....

Goldene Burton  
 Assisted Living Facility  
 711 Mousel Ave. Apt. 13  
 Cambridge, NE 69022

## Trinity Community Church

620 Penn Street  
 PO Box 310  
 Cambridge, NE 69022

(308) 697-4352  
 trinityoffice@swnebr.net

Pastor Tim's e-mail  
 trinitypastor@swnebr.net

## Kemper Memorial Methodist Church

9:45 a.m. Worship in Bartley  
 Followed by Fellowship

## Trinity Community Church

Fellowship at 10:00am  
 Services at 11 am



### July Birthdays

2 Lorene Raburn  
 4 Ryan Burke  
 5 Goldene Burton  
 David Benson  
 Roger Brougham  
 6 John Witler  
 7 Sylvia Harsch  
 Ron Hansen  
 8 Derek Raburn  
 Trev Burke  
 11 Israel Kim  
 13 Karlie Sines  
 14 Kevin Harsch  
 15 Jen Warwick  
 16 Taryn Huxoll

17 Brent May  
 Kenneth Harsch  
 19 Jacob tenBensel  
 Emmett Cramer  
 20 Bill Mousel  
 Wyatt Fiene  
 21 Pastor Tim Burke  
 22 Jordan Brooks  
 Justin Brooks  
 24 Rachelle Pettera  
 Dick Potts  
 Machelite Witler  
 25 Dean Liess  
 26 Andela Taylor  
 Bob Brown  
 27 Jackson Johnson  
 Tracy Huxoll  
 28 Betty Jorgensen  
 Dale Stewart  
 29 Drew Cramer  
 Laurel Arnold

### Happy Anniversary

July 6 Burton & Sasha Burton  
 July 7 Tersen & Jordan Arnold  
 July 8 Bob & Deanna Brown  
 July 12 Chris & Cindy Borland